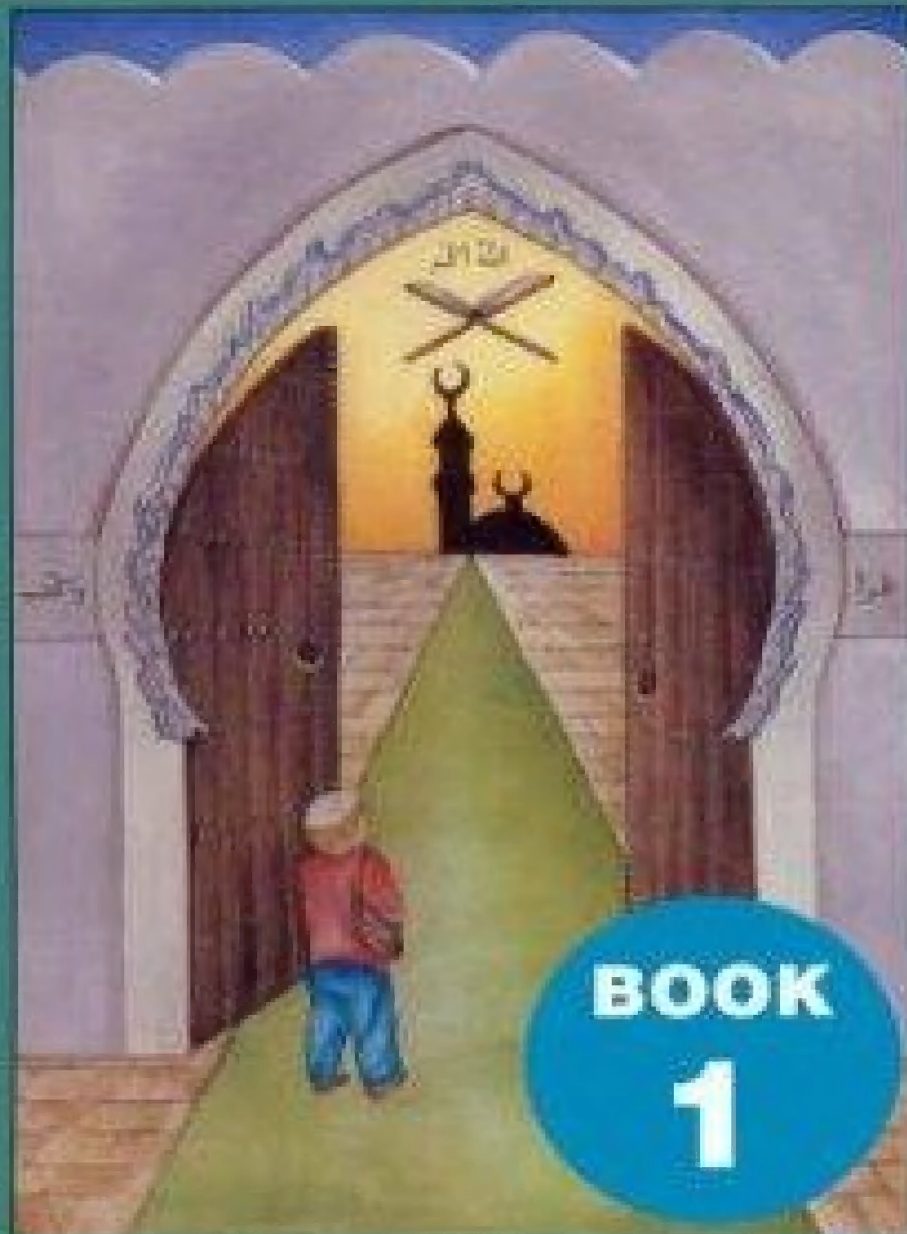
مِفْتَاحُ الْعَرَبِيَّة

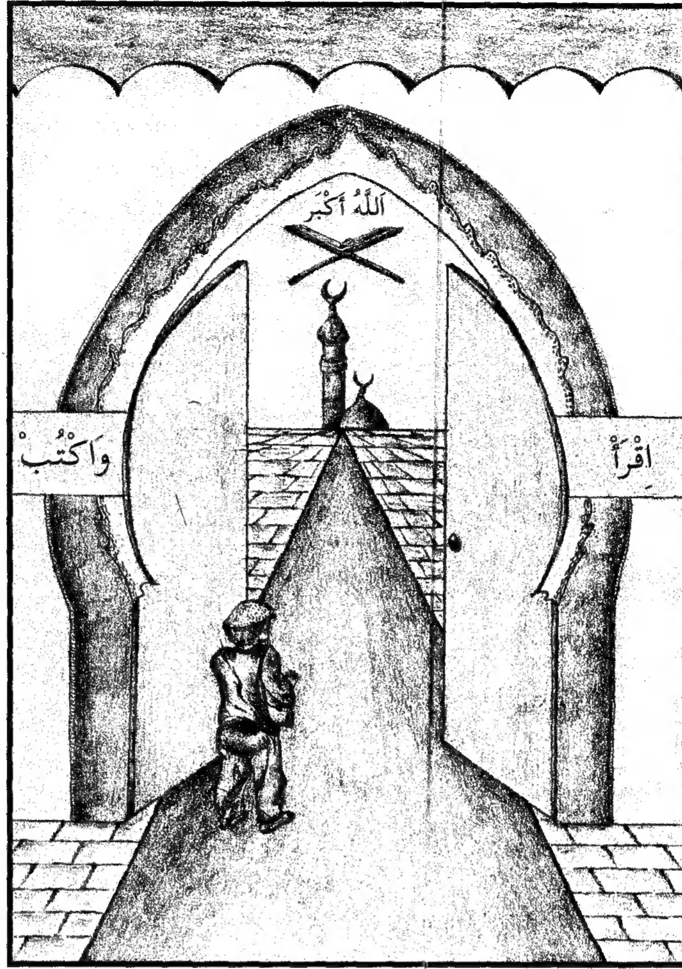


GATEWAY TO ARABIC

A Foundation Course in Reading and Writing Arabic

Dr. Imran Hamza Alawiye

Starter Book



مِفْتَاحُ الْعَرَبِيَّة

GATEWAY TO ARABIC

Book One

Dr. Imran Hamza Alawiye

A foundation course in reading and writing Arabic

The Arabic Alphabet

In order to learn any language, one must first master the alphabet and be able to read, write and pronounce it correctly.

Below on the right is the Arabic alphabet. The pronunciation column in the middle is only a rough guide and should not be relied on too heavily. Ask an Arabic speaker to help you master the sounds of the letters, or listen to the audio recording of the book.

Please note that Arabic is written from right to left.

Names of the letters	Pronunciation guide	Arabic letters
Alif	a	ا
Baa	b	ب
Taa	t	ت
Thaa	th	ث
Jeem	j	ج
Ḥa	ḥ	ح
Kha	kh	خ
Daal	d	د
Dhaal	dh	ذ
Raa	r	ر
Zaa	z	ز
Seen	s	س

Names of the letters	Pronunciation guide	Arabic letters
Sheen	sh	ش
Ṣaad	ṣ	ص
Ḍaad	ḍ	ض
Ṭa	ṭ	ط
Ẓa	ẓ	ظ
ᶜAyn	ᶜ	ع
Ghayn	gh	غ
Faa	f	ف
Qaaf	q	ق
Kaaf	k	ك
Laam	l	ل
Meem	m	م
Noon	n	ن
Haa	h	هـ
Waaw	w	و
Yaa	y	ي

Write over the letters below, then continue copying to complete the page.



Alif



أ

أ أ أ أ أ أ أ

أ

أ

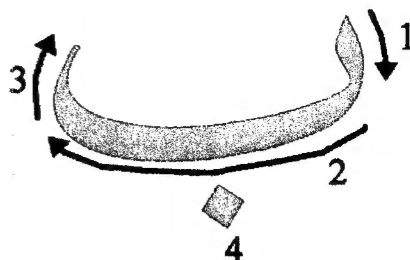
أ

أ

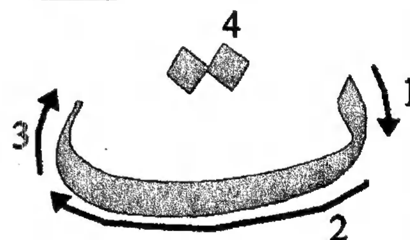
أ

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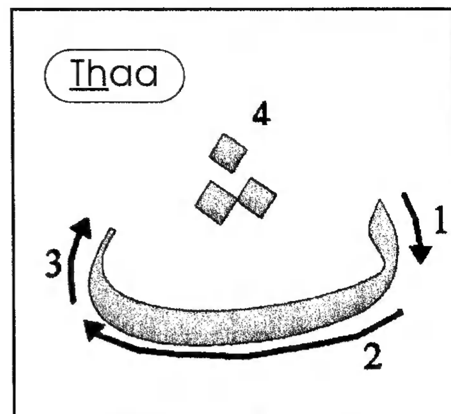
ب ب ب ب ب



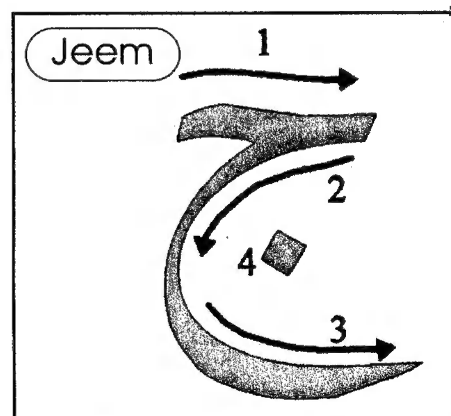
ت ت ت ت ت

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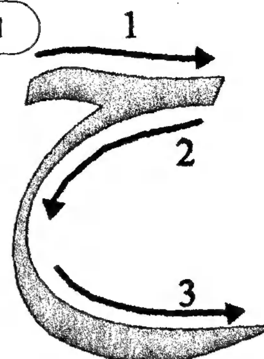
ث ث ث ث ث



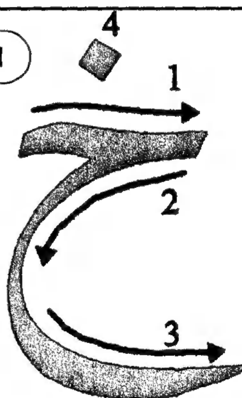
ج ج ج ج ج

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ح ح ح ح ح



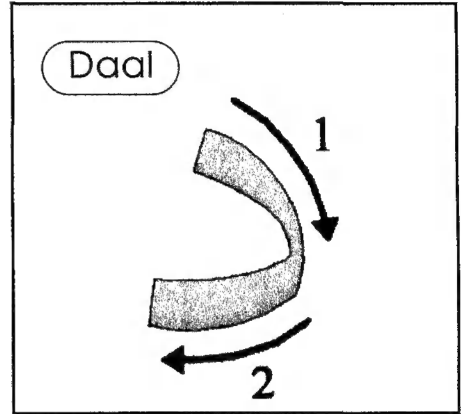
خ خ خ خ خ

Write over the letters below, then continue copying to complete the page.

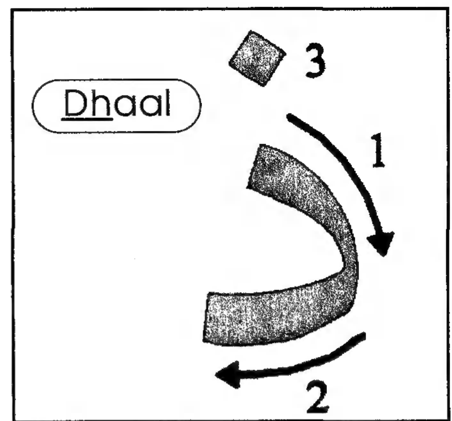




د



ذ

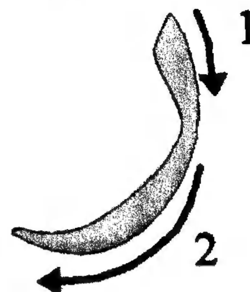


Write over the letters below, then continue copying to complete the page.



ر ر ر ر ر

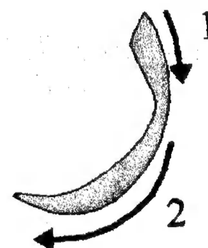
Raa



ز ز ز ز ز

Zaa

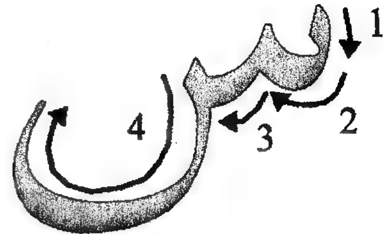




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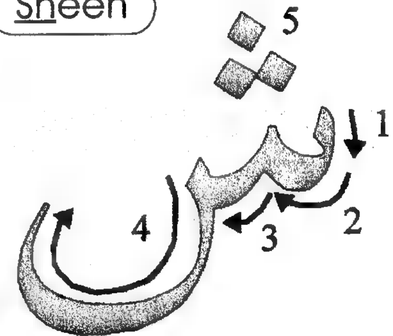


Seen



س

Sheen

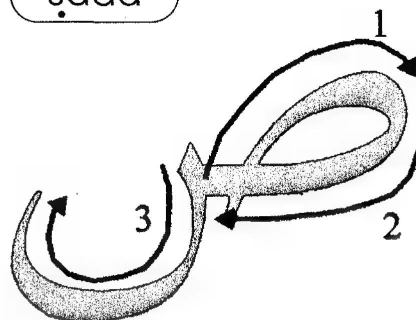


ش

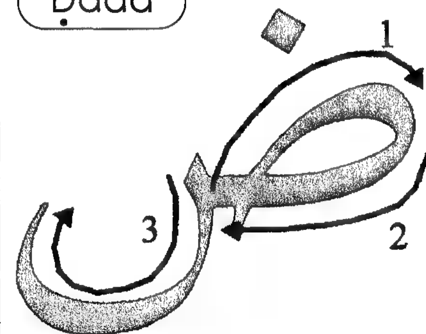
Write over the letters below, then continue copying to complete the page.



ص ص ص ص ص ص ص ص ص



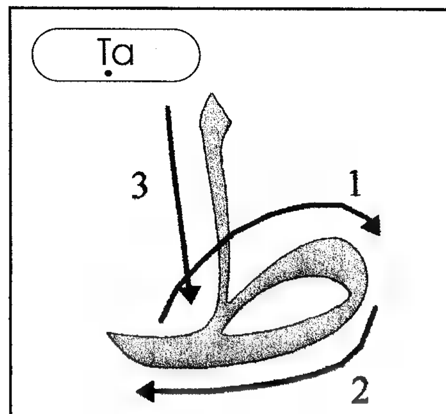
ض ض ض ض ض ض ض ض ض



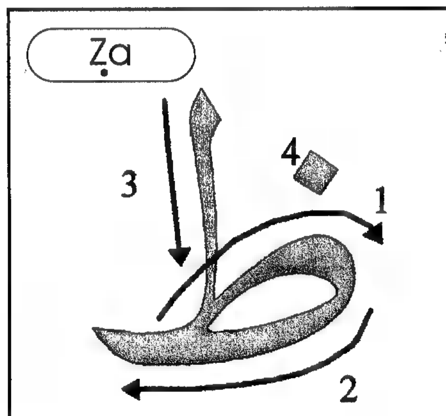
Write over the letters below, then continue copying to complete the page.



ط ط ط ط ط

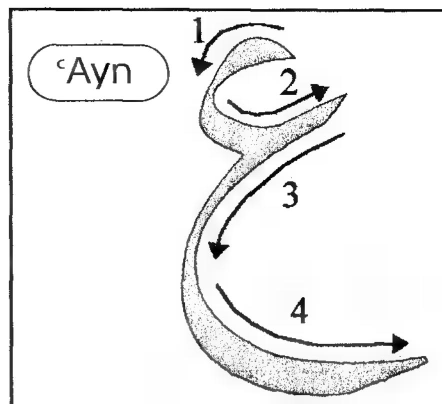


ظ ظ ظ ظ ظ

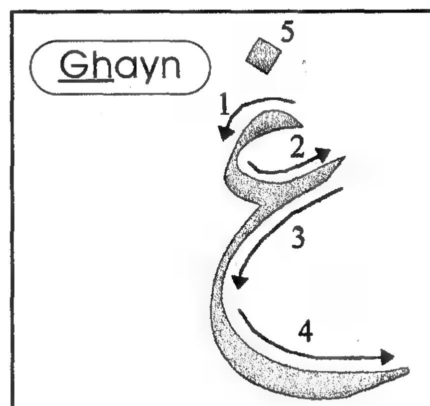


Write over the letters below, then continue copying to complete the page.





ع

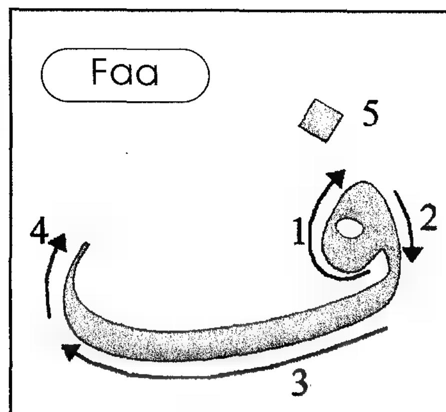


غ

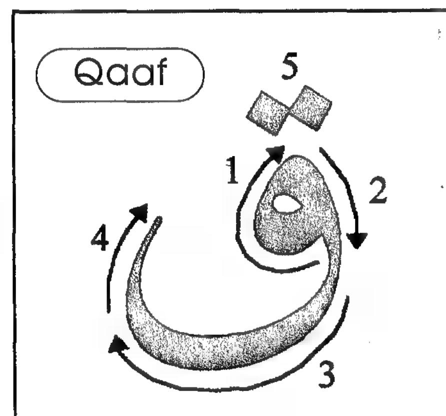
Write over the letters below, then continue copying to complete the page.







ف ف ف ف ف

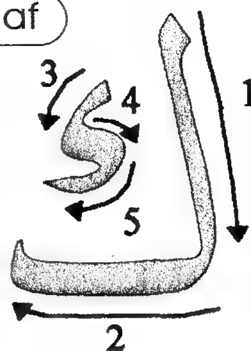


ق ق ق ق ق

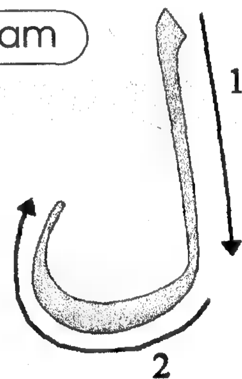
Write over the letters below, then continue copying to complete the page.



ك ك ك ك ك

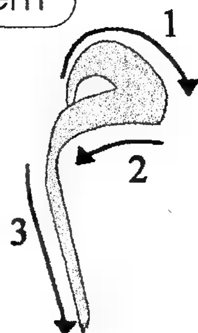


ل ل ل ل ل

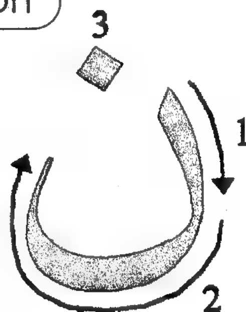


Write over the letters below, then continue copying to complete the page.





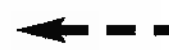


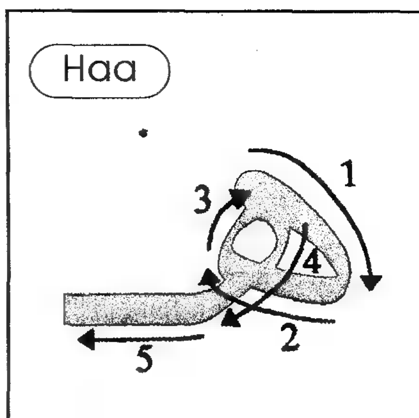




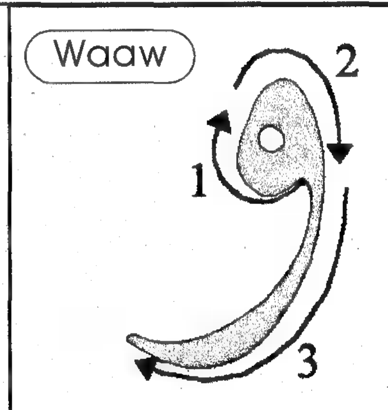
Write over the letters below, then continue copying to complete the page.







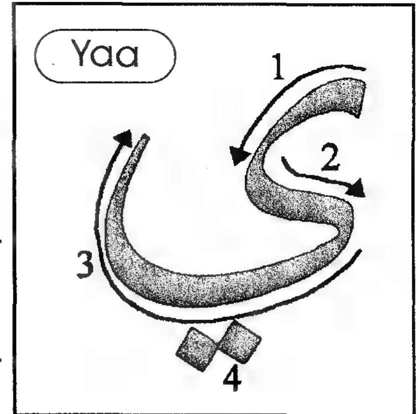
هـ هـ هـ هـ هـ



و و و و و و

Write over the letters below, then continue copying to complete the page.





ي ي ي ي ي

Here is the complete Arabic alphabet.
Can you read all the letters?

Start here!



ج	ث	ت	ب	ا
ر	ذ	د	خ	ح
ض	ص	ش	س	ز
ف	غ	ع	ظ	ط
ن	م	ل	ك	ق
		ي	و	هـ

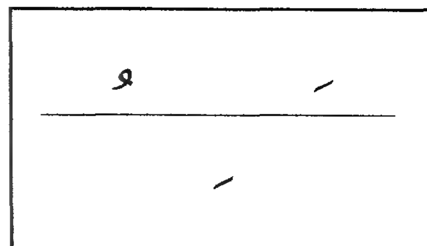
Can you fill in the missing letters
in the alphabet below?



ج				ا
	ذ			ح
	ص			ز
ف				
ن		ل		ق
			و	

The Short Vowels

The following are the three short Arabic vowels. They are written above or below the Arabic letters.



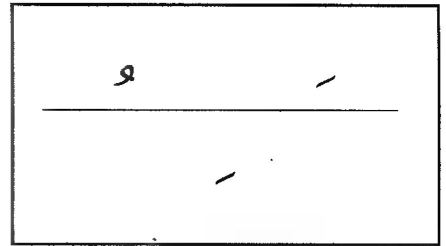
i) Fatḥa ـَ This is a short diagonal stroke written above an Arabic letter. It is pronounced 'a', as in the English word 'cat'.

Read the alphabet below with fatḥa on each letter.

←----

جَ	ثَ	تَ	بَ	أَ
رَ	ذَ	دَ	خَ	حَ
ضَ	صَ	شَ	سَ	زَ
فَ	غَ	عَ	ظَ	طَ
نَ	مَ	لَ	كَ	قَ
		يَ	وَ	هَ

The Short Vowels – Continued



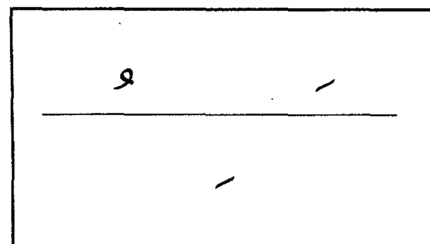
ii) Kasra  This is a short diagonal stroke written below an Arabic letter. It is pronounced 'i', as in the English word 'bit'.

Read the alphabet below with kasra on each letter.

←----

جِ	ثِ	تِ	بِ	إِ
رِ	ذِ	دِ	خِ	حِ
ضِ	صِ	شِ	سِ	زِ
فِ	غِ	عِ	ظِ	طِ
نِ	مِ	لِ	كِ	قِ
		يِ	وِ	هـِ

The Short Vowels – Continued



iii) Ḍamma ـُ This is like a very small 'waaw' written above an Arabic letter. It is pronounced 'u', as in the English word 'bull'.

Read the alphabet below with ḍamma on each letter.

جُ	ثُ	تُ	بُ	أُ
رُ	ذُ	دُ	خُ	حُ
ضُ	صُ	شُ	سُ	زُ
فُ	غُ	عُ	ظُ	طُ
نُ	مُ	لُ	كُ	قُ
		يُ	وُ	هُ

Practise reading your alphabet with fatḥa, kasra and ḍamma (a, i, u).

ثَ ثِ ثُ	تَ تِ تُ	بَ بِ بُ	أَ إِ أُ
دَ دِ دُ	خَ خِ خُ	حَ حِ حُ	جَ جِ جُ
سَ سِ سُ	زَ زِ زُ	رَ رِ رُ	ذَ ذِ ذُ
طَ طِ طُ	ضَ ضِ ضُ	صَ صِ صُ	شَ شِ شُ
فَ فِ فُ	غَ غِ غُ	عَ عِ عُ	ظَ ظِ ظُ
مَ مِ مُ	لَ لِ لُ	كَ كِ كُ	قَ قِ قُ
يَ يِ يُ	وَ وِ وُ	هَـ هِـ هُـ	نَ نِ نُ

Can you read the following Arabic words?

he stops يَ قِ فُ	he thanked شَ كَ رَ	he read قَ رَ أَ
he desired, wished رَ غِ بَ	he was good حَ سُ نَ	he understood فَ هِـ مَ
he laughed ضَ حِ كَ	he was endowed with رُ زِ قَ	he wrote كَ تَ بَ
he joined لَ حِ قَ	it was known عُ لِ مَ	he describes يَ صِ فُ

Joining up Arabic letters (For an explanation, please see p. 27)

	By itself	Joined	End	Middle	Beginning	
	ا	ا ا ا	ـا	ـا	ا	*
	ب	ببب	ـب	ـبـ	بـ	
	ت	تتت	ـت	ـتـ	تـ	
**	ة	تتة	ـة	ـتـ	تـ	
	ث	ثثث	ـث	ـثـ	ثـ	
	ج	ججج	ـج	ـجـ	جـ	
	ح	ححح	ـح	ـحـ	حـ	
	خ	خخخ	ـخ	ـخـ	خـ	
	د	د د د	ـد	ـد	د	*
	ذ	ذ ذ ذ	ـذ	ـذ	ذ	*
	ر	ر ر ر	ـر	ـر	ر	*
	ز	ز ز ز	ـز	ـز	ز	*
	س	سسس	ـس	ـسـ	سـ	
	ش	ششش	ـش	ـشـ	شـ	

* The six starred 'naughty' letters cannot be joined to the left. For an explanation, see p. 27.

** Sometimes at the end of a word the letter taa is written ة or ـة which is called taa marbuta.

By itself	Joined	End	Middle	Beginning
ص	صصص	ـص	ـصـ	صـ
ض	ضضض	ـض	ـضـ	ضـ
ط	ططط	ـط	ـطـ	طـ
ظ	ظظظ	ـظ	ـظـ	ظـ
ع	ععع	ـع	ـعـ	عـ
غ	غغغ	ـغ	ـغـ	غـ
ف	ففف	ـف	ـفـ	فـ
ق	ققق	ـق	ـقـ	قـ
ك	ككك	ـك	ـكـ	كـ
ل	للل	ـل	ـلـ	لـ
م	ممم	ـم	ـمـ	مـ
ن	ننن	ـن	ـنـ	نـ
ه	ههه	ـه	ـهـ	هـ
و	و و و	ـو	ـو	و *
ي	ييي	ـي	ـيـ	يـ

Joining up Arabic letters – continued

So far, we have learned how to write the Arabic letters when they are not joined together. However, Arabic words are usually written in a joined-up form. Most letters of the Arabic alphabet can be joined on either side. The shape of each letter changes according to its position within a word. These different forms must be learnt so that one can recognise the letters when they are combined together to make words.

Each letter has four forms: beginning, middle, end and by itself. On the previous two pages you will find a table showing how each letter is written according to its position in a word.

The 'Naughty' Letters

There are six 'naughty' letters which refuse to join on to any letter after them (in other words, to the left of them). However, they do allow other normal letters to join them from the right. The 'naughty' letters are:

ا د ذ ر ز و

A normal letter written after a naughty letter cannot take the middle form. It will take the beginning form instead, unless it is the last letter of a word, in which case it will take the 'by itself' form.

Exercise

Write out the Arabic alphabet in the boxes below, and draw a circle around the six 'naughty' letters.

				ا
		ي		

Practice with the 'Naughty' Letters

ا د ذ ر ز و

ا + ب ← اب
ب + ا ← با

د + ب ← دب
ب + د ← بد

ذ + ب ← ذب
ب + ذ ← بذ

ر + ب ← رب
ب + ر ← بر

ز + ف ← زف
ف + ز ← فز

و + ل ← ول
ل + و ← لو

What happens when both the letters are naughty?

ا + و ← او
و + ا ← وا

ذ + و ← ذو
و + ذ ← وذ

ا + د ← اد
د + ا ← دا

ا + ذ ← اذ
ذ + ا ← ذا

د + ر ← در
ر + د ← رد

ر + ز ← رز
ز + ر ← زر

Practice with joining letters

Copy out the words onto the lines provided, and learn how to join the letters. 

he looked for; he researched بَحَثَ	بَـ ـحَـ ـثَ	بَ حَ ثَ
he stood firm ثَبَتَ	ثَـ ـبَـ ـتَ	ثَ بَ تَ
he drank شَرِبَ	شَـ ـرِ بَ	شَ رِ بَ
he scattered نَثَرَ	نَـ ـثَـ ـرَ	نَ ثَ رَ
he left تَرَكَ	تَـ ـرَ كَ	تَ رَ كَ
he covered, concealed سَتَرَ	سَـ ـتَـ ـرَ	سَ تَ رَ

Practice with joining letters

Copy out the words onto the lines provided, and learn how to join the letters. 

he gathered	جَمَعَ	جَـ ـمَـ ـعَ	جَ مَ عَ
he prostrated	سَجَدَ	سَـ ـجَـ ـدَ	سَ جَ دَ
he went out	خَرَجَ	خَـ ـرَ جَ	خَ رَ جَ
he praised	حَمِدَ	حَـ ـمِـ ـدَ	حَ مِ دَ
he protected, guarded	حَفِظَ	حَـ ـفِـ ـظَ	حَ فِ ظَ
he explained	شَرَحَ	شَـ ـرَ حَ	شَ رَ حَ

Practice with joining letters

Copy out the words onto the lines provided, and learn how to join the letters. 

he shouted	صَرَخَ	صَـ ـرَ خَ	صَ رَ خَ
he boasted; he was proud	فَخَرَ	فَـ ـخَـ ـرَ	فَ خَ رَ
he entered	دَخَلَ	دَ خَـ ـلَ	دَ خَ لَ
he turned up	وَرَدَ	وَ رَ دَ	وَ رَ دَ
he chased away; he repelled	طَرَدَ	طَـ ـرَ دَ	طَ رَ دَ
he regretted	نَدِمَ	نَـ ـدِ مَ	نَ دِ مَ

Practice with joining letters

Copy out the words onto the lines provided, and learn how to join the letters.

he remembered	ذَكَرَ	ذَ كَـ ـرَ	ذَ كَ رَ
he purified	هَذَبَ	هَـ ـذَ بَ	هَ ذَ بَ
he took	أَخَذَ	أَ خَـ ـذَ	أَ خَ ذَ
he thanked	شَكَرَ	شَـ ـكَـ ـرَ	شَ كَ رَ
he raised	رَفَعَ	رَ فَـ ـعَ	رَ فَ عَ
he claimed, alleged	زَعَمَ	زَ عَـ ـمَ	زَ عَ مَ

Practice with joining letters

Copy out the words onto the lines provided, and learn how to join the letters. 

he fastened; he was resolute حَزَمَ	حَـ ـزَ ـمَ	حَ زَ مَ
he descended, went down نَزَلَ	نَـ ـزَ ـلَ	نَ زَ لَ
he urged, incited حَفَزَ	حَـ ـفَـ ـزَ	حَ فَ زَ
he read قَرَأَ	قَـ ـرَ أَ	قَ رَ أَ
he washed غَسَلَ	غَـ ـسَـ ـلَ	غَ سَ لَ
he dozed; he was sleepy نَعَسَ	نَـ ـعَـ ـسَ	نَ عَ سَ

Practice with joining letters

Copy out the words onto the lines provided, and learn how to join the letters.

he was active, energetic	نَشِطَ	نَـ شِـ طَ	نَ شِ طَ
he was thirsty	عَطِشَ	عَـ طِـ شَ	عَ طِ شَ
he was patient	صَبَرَ	صَـ بَـ رَ	صَ بَ رَ
he stuck (s.th.)	لَصِقَ	لَـ صِـ قَ	لَ صِ قَ
he laughed	ضَحِكَ	ضَـ حِـ كَ	ضَ حِ كَ
it decreased, became less	نَقَصَ	نَـ قَـ صَ	نَ قَ صَ

Practice with joining letters

Copy out the words onto the lines provided, and learn how to join the letters. 

he arose, got up نَهَضَ	نَـ ـهَـ ـضَ	نَ هَ ضَ
he looked at نَظَرَ	نَـ ـظَـ ـرَ	نَ ظَ رَ
he digested هَضَمَ	هَـ ـضَـ ـمَ	هَ ضَ مَ
he cut قَطَعَ	قَـ ـطَـ ـعَ	قَ طَ عَ
he tied رَبَطَ	رَ بَـ ـطَ	رَ بَ طَ
he appeared ظَهَرَ	ظَـ ـهَـ ـرَ	ظَ هَ رَ

Practice with joining letters

Copy out the words onto the lines provided, and learn how to join the letters.

it became small, little صَغُرَ	صَـ غُـ رَ	صَ غُ رَ
he was distinguished: he excelled نَبَغَ	نَـ بَـ غَ	نَ بَ غَ
he opened فَتَحَ	فَـ تَـ حَ	فَ تَ حَ
he blew: he inflated نَفَخَ	نَـ فَـ خَ	نَ فَ خَ
he stopped: he stood وَقَفَ	وَ قَـ فَ	وَ قَ فَ
he caught up with someone لَحِقَ	لَـ حِـ قَ	لَ حِ قَ

Practice with joining letters

Copy out the words onto the lines provided, and learn how to join the letters.



he grabbed, seized	مَسَكَ	مَـسَـكَ	مَ سَ كَ
he turned s.th. over	قَلَبَ	قَـلَـبَ	قَ لَ بَ
he swallowed	بَلَعَ	بَـلَـعَ	بَ لَ عَ
he prevented; he forbade	مَنَعَ	مَـنَـعَ	مَ نَ عَ
it was nice, good, suitable	حَسُنَ	حَـسُـنَ	حَ سُ نَ
he forgot	نَسِيَ	نَـسِـيَ	نَ سِ يَ

Practice with joining letters

Join the groups of letters to make words in the boxes provided.



سَجَدَ	he prostrated سَ جَ دَ	رَكَعَ	he bowed رَ كَ عَ
	it rained مَ طَ رَ		he went ذَ هَ بَ
	he made room/space for فَ سَ حَ		he was full up (food) شَ بِ عَ
	he accepted قَ بِ لَ		he sat جَ لَ سَ
	he was allowed, permitted أُ ذِ نَ		he was kind, generous سَ مُ حَ
	he advised نَ صَ حَ		he was astonished دَ هِ شَ
	he ripened يَ نَ عَ		he knew عَ رَ فَ
	it became great عَ ظُ مَ		he met لَ قِ يَ

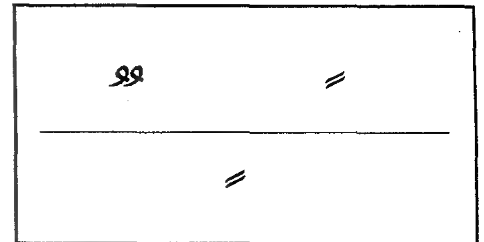
Practice with joining letters

Join the groups of letters to make words in the boxes provided.



سَحَبَ	he withdrew, pulled out سَ حَ بَ	قَصُرَ	it was short قَ صُ رَ
	it was numerous كَ ثُ رَ		he emptied; he finished فَ رَ غَ
	he endowed with رُ زِ قَ		he demanded, requested طَ لَ بَ
	he matured; it ripened نَ ضِ جَ		he triumphed ظَ فِ رَ
	he spent the night awake سَ هِـ رَ		he was quick, fast سَ رُ عَ
	he was sorry, regretted أَ سِ فَ		he abstained from زَ هَـ دَ
	he was ill, unwell مَ رِ ضَ		he gathered, assembled حَ فَ لَ
	he passed (an exam) نَ جَ حَ		he was angry غَ ضِ بَ

Tanween



The three short Arabic vowels, fatḥa, kasra and ḍamma, can be doubled. This is known as "tanween", and it changes the sound of the vowels.

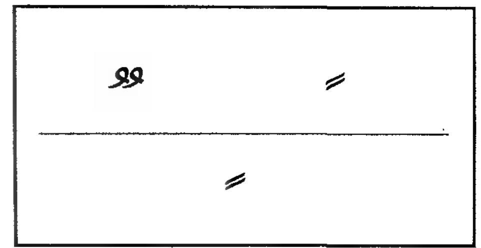
i) Tanween fatḥa (fatḥataan) ـًـ This is two short diagonal strokes written above an Arabic letter. It is pronounced 'an', as in the English word 'man'. It is usually supported by an alif.

Read the alphabet below with tanween fatḥa on each letter.

←---

جًا	ثًا	تًا	بًا	أً
رًا	ذًا	دًا	خًا	حًا
ضًا	صًا	شًا	سًا	زًا
فًا	غًا	عًا	ظًا	طًا
نًا	مًا	لًا	كًا	قًا
		يًا	وًا	هًا

Tanween (Continued)



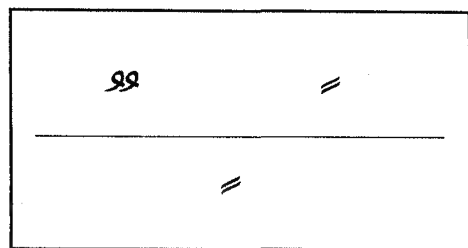
ii) Tanween kasra (kasrataan) ____ ٍ

This is two short diagonal strokes written below an Arabic letter. It is pronounced 'in', as in the English word 'win'.

Read the alphabet below with tanween kasra on each letter.

جٍ	ثٍ	تٍ	بٍ	إٍ
رٍ	ذٍ	دٍ	خٍ	حٍ
ضٍ	صٍ	شٍ	سٍ	زٍ
فٍ	غٍ	عٍ	ظٍ	طٍ
نٍ	مٍ	لٍ	كٍ	قٍ
		يٍ	وٍ	هٍ

Tanween (Continued)



iii) Tanween ḍamma (ḍammataan) ٌ

This is two dammas written above an Arabic letter. It is pronounced 'un', as in the English word 'bun'.

Sometimes it is written like this: ٌ

Read the alphabet below with tanween ḍamma on each letter.

←---

جٌ	ثٌ	تٌ	بٌ	أٌ
رٌ	ذٌ	دٌ	خٌ	حٌ
ضٌ	صٌ	شٌ	سٌ	زٌ
فٌ	غٌ	عٌ	ظٌ	طٌ
نٌ	مٌ	لٌ	كٌ	قٌ
		يٌ	وٌ	هٌ

Practice with tanween

Practise reading the following words that have been written with tanween. Copy each word out onto the empty line below the word.

bell	جَرَسًا	pen	قَلَمٌ	boy	وَلَدٌ	father	أَبٍ
travel	سَفَرٍ	hundred	مِئَةٍ	hand	يَدًا	lion	أَسَدٌ
horse	فَرَسًا	present	هَدِيَةٌ	goat	غَنَمٌ	mouth	فَمٍ
ball	كُرَةٍ	cherries	كَرَزٌ	lip	شَفَةً	never	أَبَدًا
king	مَلِكًا	mountain	جَبَلًا	carrot	جَزَرٌ	brother	أَخٌ
pyramid	هَرَمٍ	tree	شَجَرَةً	camel	جَمَلٌ	man	رَجُلًا

The Long Vowels (Madd)

Three letters of the Arabic alphabet are used to lengthen the sounds of the short vowels fatḥa, kasra and ḍamma. These letters are: ـَا ـِي ـُو

i) Alif al-madd

Alif is used to lengthen the "a" sound of fatḥa into an "aa" sound.
Note the special shape of laam when it is joined to alif below.

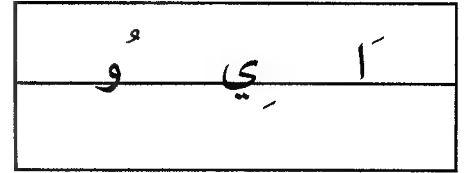
آ = ا + أَ

Read the alphabet below with alif al-madd (the long fatḥa) on each letter.

←---

جَا	ثَا	تَا	بَا	آ
رَا	ذَا	دَا	خَا	حَا
ضَا	صَا	شَا	سَا	زَا
فَا	غَا	عَا	ظَا	طَا
نَا	مَا	لَا	كَا	قَا
		يَا	وَا	هَا

The Long Vowels (Madd) – Continued



ii) Yaa al-madd

Yaa al-madd is used to lengthen the "i" sound of kasra into an "ee" sound.

Read the alphabet below with yaa al-madd (the long kasra) on each letter.

←----

جِي	ثِي	تِي	بِي	إِي
رِي	ذِي	دِي	خِي	حِي
ضِي	صِي	شِي	سِي	زِي
فِي	غِي	عِي	ظِي	طِي
نِي	مِي	لِي	كِي	قِي
		يِي	وِي	هِي

The Long Vowels (Madd) – Continued

اَ يِ وُ

iii) Waaw al-madd

Waaw al-madd is used to lengthen the "u" sound of ḍamma into an "oo" sound.

Read the alphabet below with waaw al-madd (the long ḍamma) on each letter.

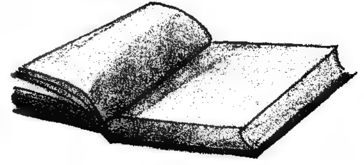
←---

جُو	ثُو	تُو	بُو	أُو
رُو	ذُو	دُو	خُو	حُو
ضُو	صُو	شُو	سُو	زُو
فُو	غُو	عُو	ظُو	طُو
نُو	مُو	لُو	كُو	قُو
		يُو	وُو	هُو

Practice with Madd

Read the words below, then copy them out onto the lines provided.

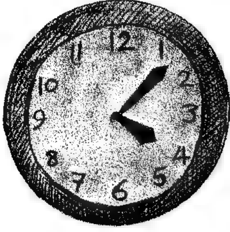




كِتَابٌ



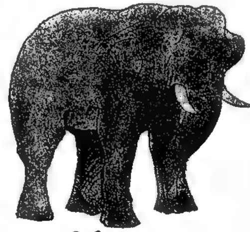
بَابٌ



سَاعَةٌ



سَرِيرٌ



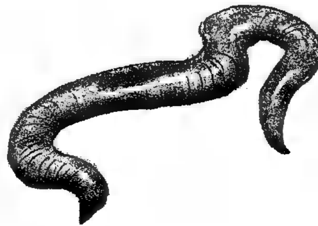
فِيلٌ



رِيشَةٌ



حُوتٌ



دُودَةٌ



بُومَةٌ

Sukoon

A small circle called sukoon, written above a letter of the Arabic alphabet, is used to show that the letter below it has no vowel: ـْـ . All you hear is the shortened sound of the letter, so jeem becomes 'j', kaaf becomes 'k' and sheen becomes 'sh' etc.

Try reading the following words: كَمْ لَمْ مِنْ قُلْ قِفْ بَلْ عُدْ

When there is a fatha followed by a yaa with a sukoon on it, it makes an '-ay' sound.

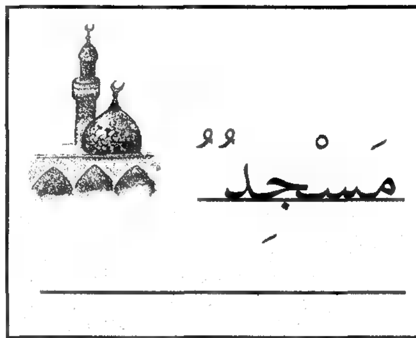
e.g. بَيْنَ زَيْتُونٌ لَيْمُونٌ بَيْضَةٌ عَيْنٌ جَيْبٌ أَيْنَ لَيْلٌ

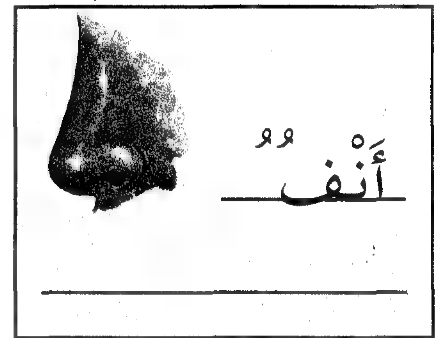
When there is a fatha followed by a waaw with a sukoon on it, it makes an '-ow' sound:

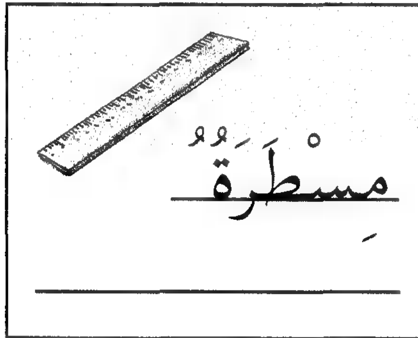
لَوْنٌ زَوْجٌ لَوْلَبٌ فَوْقَ جَوْرَبٌ نَوْمٌ خَوْفٌ يَوْمٌ

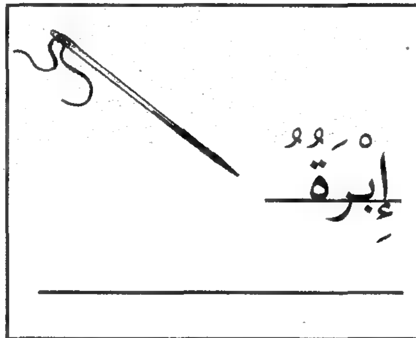
Read the words below, then copy them out onto the lines provided.

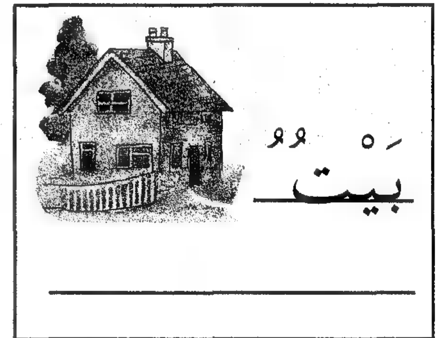


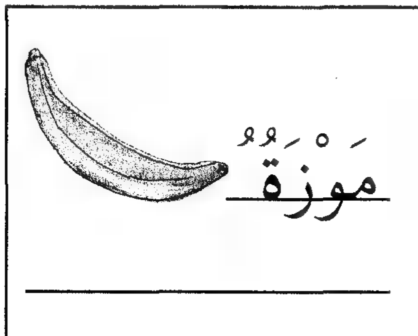


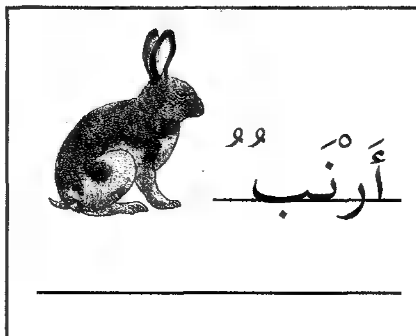


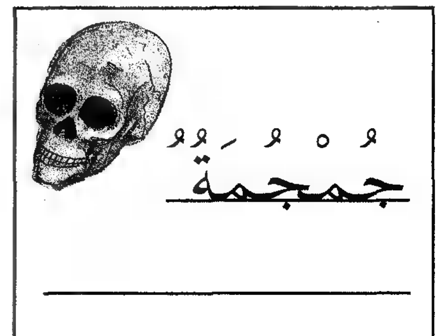












Shadda

Shadda is a symbol written above a letter to show that the letter has been doubled and therefore sounds stronger.

The symbol for shadda looks like this: ـّـ

The short vowels are written with shadda like this: ـَّ ـِّ or ـُّ ـَّ

Study these examples:

أُ + مْ + مٌ = أُمٌّ	رَ + بْ + بَ = رَبَّ	بِ + رْ + رٍ = بِرٍّ

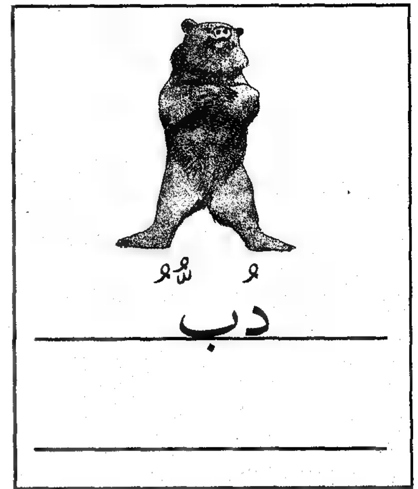
Read the words below, then copy them out onto the lines provided.



بَطَّةٌ



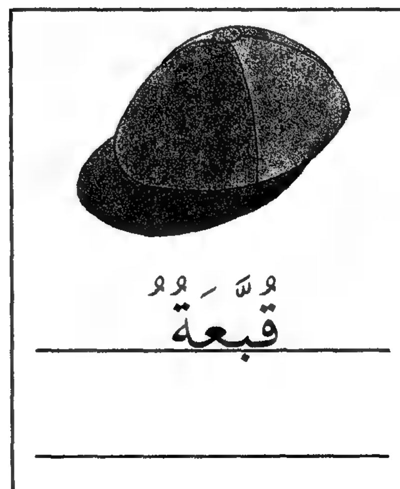
قِطَّةٌ



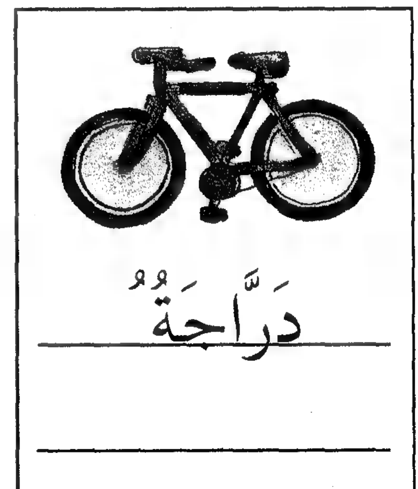
دُبٌّ



تَنُّورَةٌ



قُبَّعَةٌ



دَرَّاجَةٌ

Similar sounding letters

As you will have realised by now, some pairs of Arabic letters have similar sounds, so extra care must be taken to pronounce each letter correctly. Below are some pairs of words which illustrate this point. Incorrect pronunciation would change their meaning. For example:

قَلْب means heart, whereas كَلْب means dog!

Practise reading the words below and copy them into your exercise book. When you feel confident that you can tell the difference between the similar sounds, ask your Arabic teacher to test you by reading them aloud to you as a dictation exercise.

هَلَكَ he perished, died; he was annihilated, destroyed	حَلَقَ he shaved	كَلْبٌ a dog	قَلْبٌ a heart
طَابَ he was good, pleasant, agreeable	تَابَ he repented	رَكَدَ it was still, motionless, stagnant	رَقَدَ he slept; went to bed, lay down
طِينٌ clay, soil	تِينٌ a fig	كَسَدَ (of merchandise) it found no market; it didn't sell	قَصَدَ he intended
ظَلِيلٌ shady, shaded	ذَلِيلٌ despicable, contemptible; lowly, abject, servile	ضَرْبٌ hitting, beating, striking	دَرْبٌ a path, trail, track; a mountain pass
صَبَّ he poured, emptied	سَبَّ he insulted, reviled; he cursed, swore	بَعْضَ some, a few	بَعْدَ after
صَبَّحَ he offered a morning drink (to someone)	سَبَّحَ he swam	ضَلَّ he went astray, lost his way	دَلَّ he led, he showed the way
عَقْلٌ reason, discernment; mind, intellect	أَكْلٌ food	ضِرْسٌ a molar tooth	دَرْسٌ a lesson, class; study

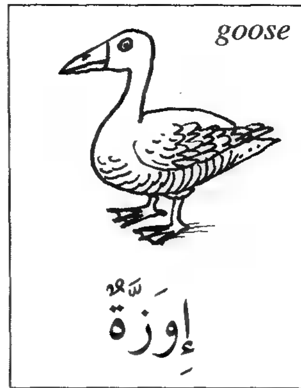
ا ـا ـا ا

بـ ـبـ ـب ب

تـ ـتـ ـت ت ـة ة


lion

أَسَدٌ


goose

إِوَزَّةٌ


wolf

ذِئْبٌ


minaret

مِئْذَنَةٌ


door

بَابٌ


cheese

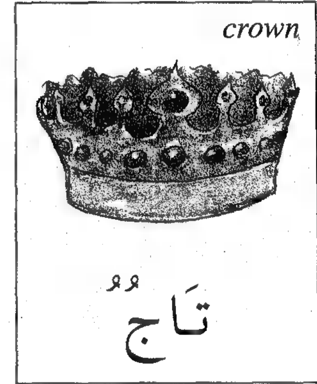
جُبْنَةٌ


desk

مَكْتَبٌ


pipe

أُنْبُوبٌ


crown

تَاجٌ


mulberry

تُوتٌ


house

بَيْتٌ


map

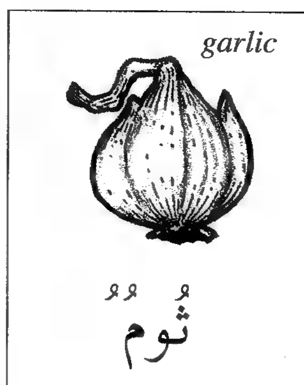
خَرِيطَةٌ

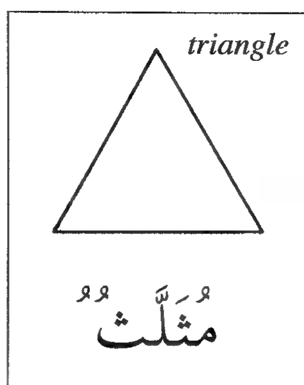
Complete the words below by filling in the missing letter or letters, and also all the vowel sounds.

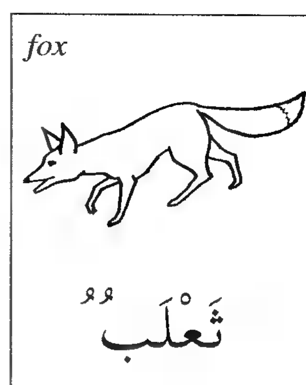
جـ..ـنة	مكـ...	..ـيت	..نبوب	..سد
تا..	..ـوت	خريطـ..	..ـاب	مـ..ذنـ..

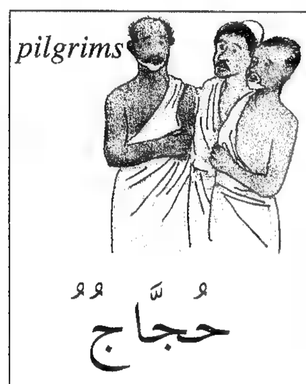
ثـ ـثـ ـث ث	جـ ـجـ ـج ج	حـ ـحـ ـح ح

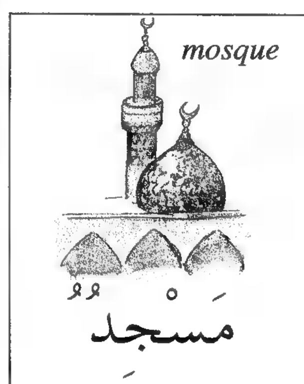


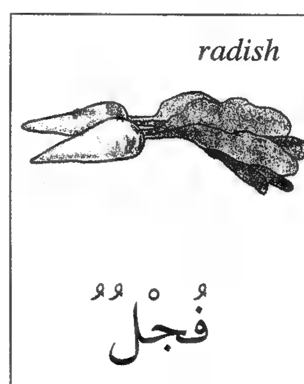


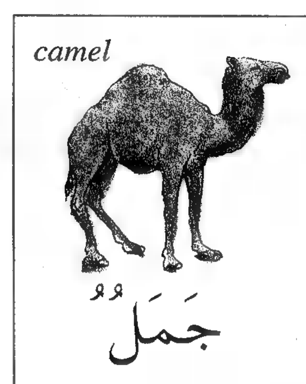


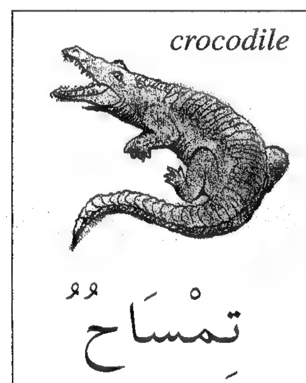


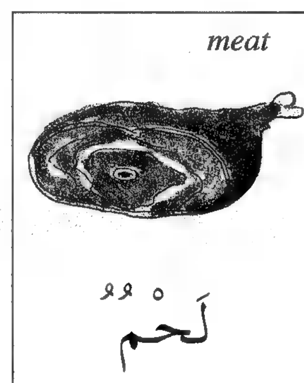




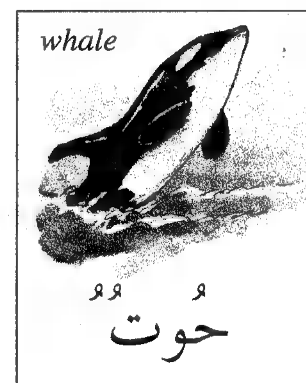










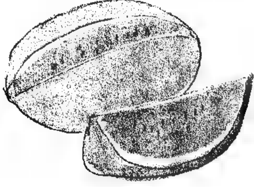


Complete the words below by filling in the missing letter or letters, and also all the vowel sounds.

حجّـ . . .	مسـ . ـد	فـ . ـل	أ . ـا . .	. . .ـامة
مـ . ـلّ . .	. . ـوت	تمسا . .	. . ـعلب	. . ـمل

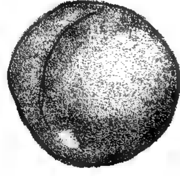
ذ ـذ ـذ ذ | د ـد ـد د | خـ ـخـ ـخ خ

watermelon



بَطِّيخٌ

peach



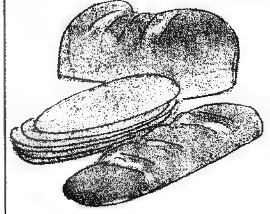
خَوْخٌ

cucumber



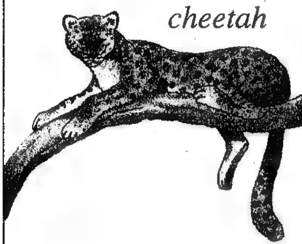
خِيَارٌ

bread



خُبْزٌ

cheetah



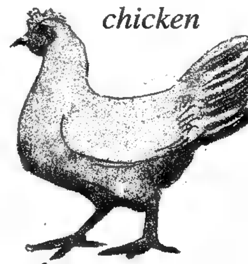
فَهْدٌ

grasshopper



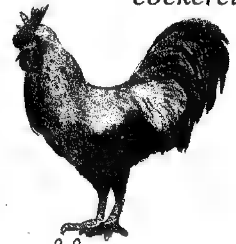
جُنْدُبٌ

chicken



دَجَاجَةٌ

cockerel



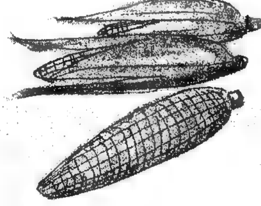
دِيكٌ

shoe



حِذَاءٌ

sweetcorn



ذُرَةٌ

tail



ذَنَبٌ

wolf



ذِئْبٌ

Complete the words below by filling in the missing letter or letters, and also all the vowel sounds.

فهـ ..	.. نب	.. يار	.. بز	.. يك
جنـ .. ب	بطيـ ..	.. و ..	د ... جة	حـ .. ء

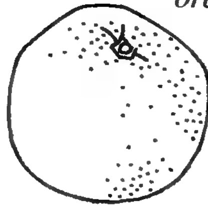
ـسـ ـسـ ـس س	ز ـز ـز ز	ر ـر ـر ر

carrot



جَزَرٌ

orange



بُرْتُقَالٌ

cherries



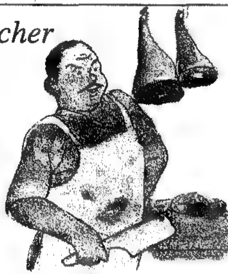
كَرَزٌ

feather



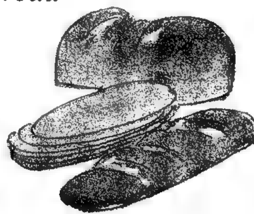
رِيشَةٌ

butcher



جَزَّارٌ

bread



خُبْزٌ

gazelle



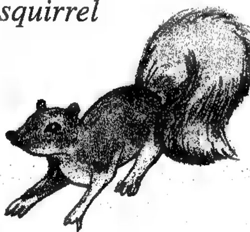
غَزَالٌ

giraffe



زَرَافَةٌ

squirrel



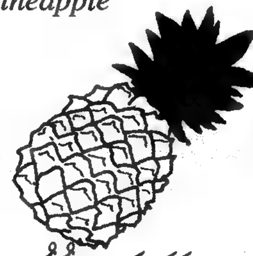
سِنْجَابٌ

eagle



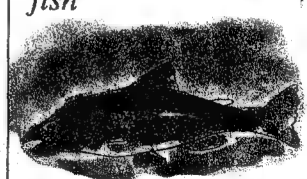
نَسْرٌ

pineapple



أَنَانَاسٌ

fish



سَمَكَةٌ

Complete the words below by filling in the missing letter or letters, and also all the vowel sounds.

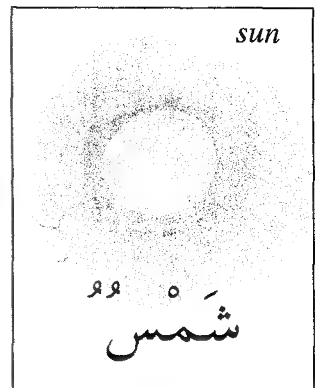
. .ـنْجاَب	. .رافَة	. .ـمكة	جَـ. .ار	كـ. .ز
. .يشـ. .	نـ. . .	بـ. .ـقال	أَنانا. .	غَـ. . .ل

ض ضـ ـضـ ـض   ص صـ ـصـ ـص   ش شـ ـشـ ـش









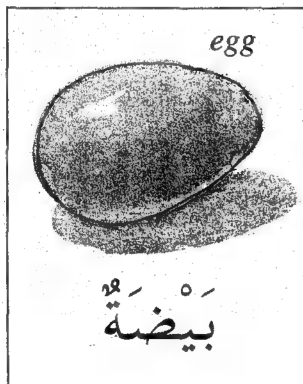




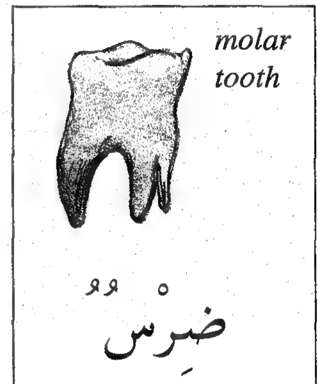












Complete the words below by filling in the missing letter or letters, and also all the vowel sounds.

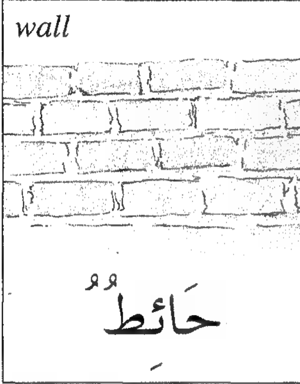
فا..ـولية	منـ...ة	بيـ..ـة	..ـرس	بـ..ـل
مـ..ـمـ..	..ـر..ـة	..ـبل	..ـفـ..عة	قميـ..

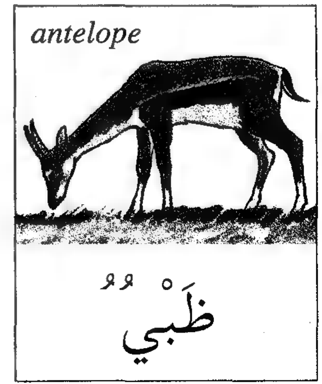
عـ ـعـ ـع ع	ظـ ـظـ ـظ ظ	طـ ـطـ ـط ط



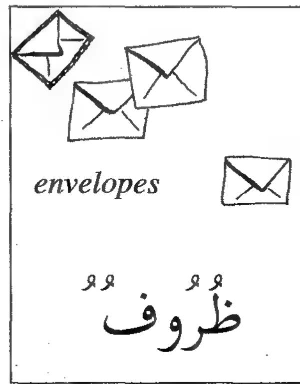










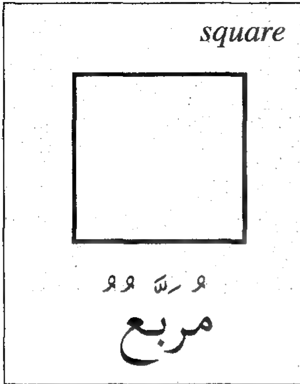








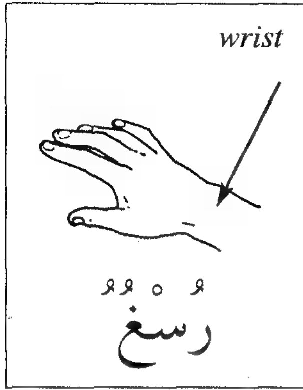




Complete the words below by filling in the missing letter or letters, and also all the vowel sounds.

..ـيو..	...ـي	بـ..ـيـ..	ثـ..ـان	..قـر..
..ـفر	مر...	..ـنـب	نـ...ة	حا...

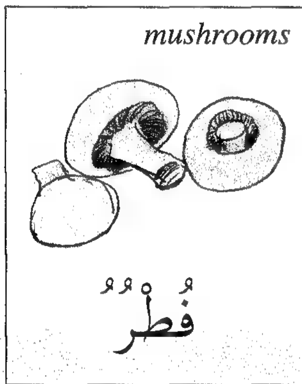
ق ـقـ ـق ق	ف ـفـ ـف ف	غـ ـغـ ـغ غ





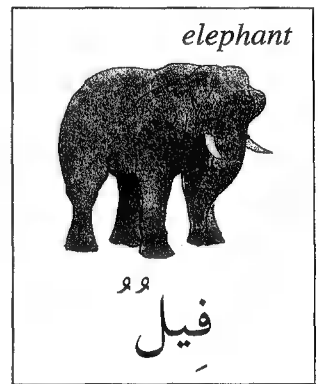


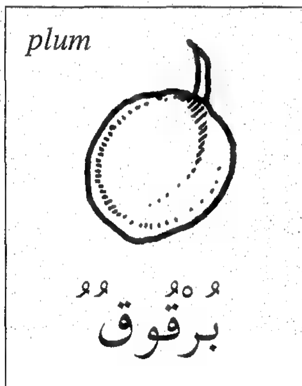


















Complete the words below by filling in the missing letter or letters, and also all the vowel sounds.

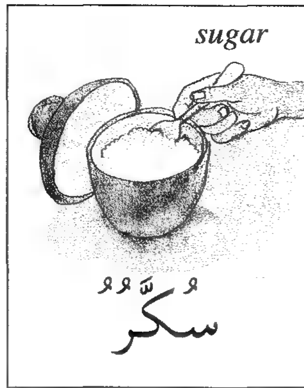
بـبّـ..ء	..ـزال	صـ..رة	..ـراب	..ـطا..
..كـ	..ـطر	بر...	قنـ..	حـ..ـبة

كـ ـكـ ـك ك

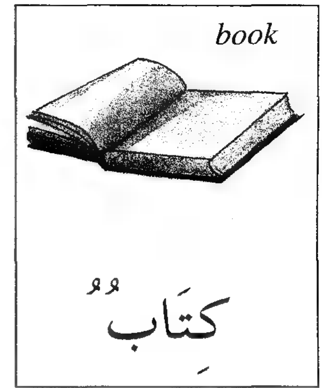
لـ ـلـ ـل ل

مـ ـمـ ـم م

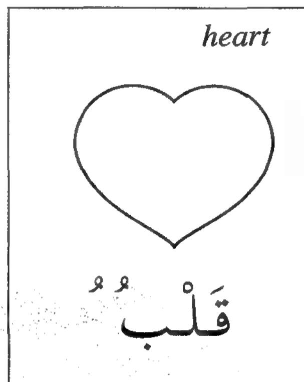






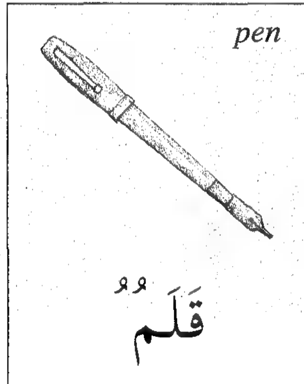




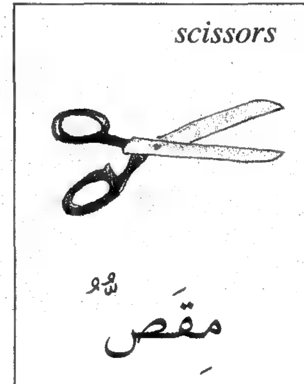














Complete the words below by filling in the missing letter or letters, and also all the vowel sounds.

..ـحاة	شبّا..	لـ..ـوة	..ـوزة	..ـتاب
..ـرة	قـ..ـم	ذيـ..	قـ..ـب	نحـ...

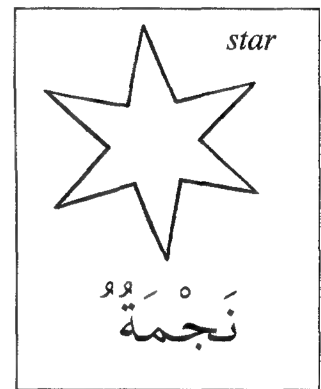
نـ ـنـ ـن ن

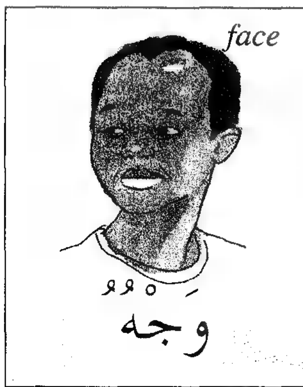
هـ ـهـ ـه ه



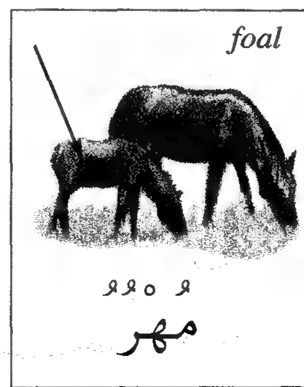








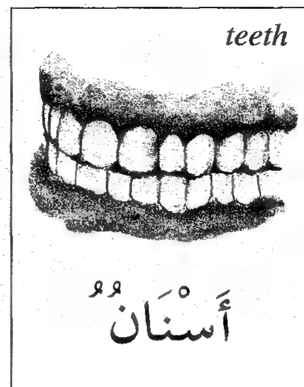














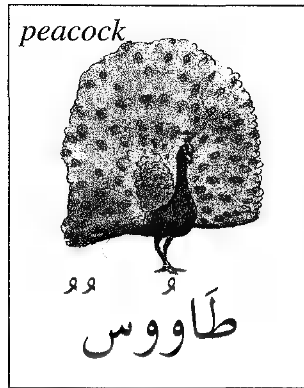
Complete the words below by filling in the missing letter or letters, and also all the vowel sounds.

.ـين	قـ . ـوة	حصا . .	و . . .	ـد . ـد .
. .ـكبوت	غـ .ـم	أسـ .ـا .	مـ . ـر	. .ـجمة

و ـو ـو و

يـ ـيـ ـي ي







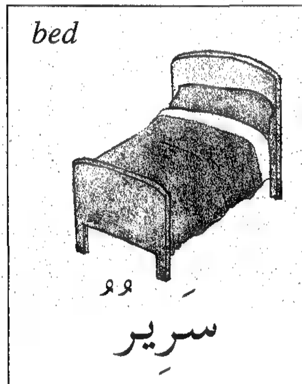


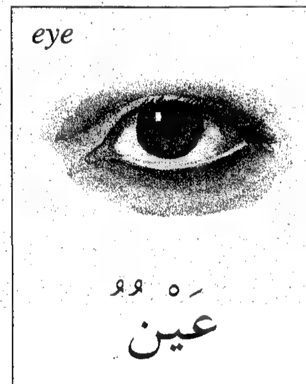




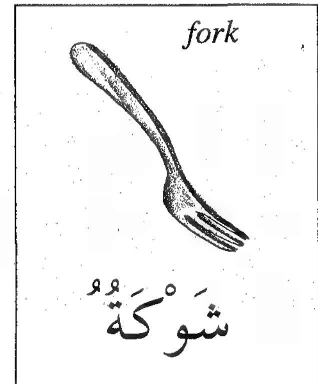












Complete the words below by filling in the missing letter or letters, and also all the vowel sounds.

شـ.كة	سر..	طا...	.ردة	..ـر.ـرة
جر..	عـ...	كر...	تنّـ...ة	..ـد

The moon letters

ا ب ج ح خ ع غ ف ق ك م هـ و ي

The Arabic word for 'the' is 'al' (alif followed by laam). It is not written separately. Rather, it joins onto the word it defines.

the = اَل

The Arabic alphabet is divided into two groups of letters: the moon letters and the sun letters. The moon letters are shown above. When 'al' is followed by a word beginning with a moon letter, then 'al' is written with a sukoon on the laam.

In the first example below, 'arnabun' (a rabbit) becomes 'al-arnabu' (the rabbit). Note how the tanween at the end of a word without 'al' changes into a single short vowel once 'al' is added. e.g. arnab**un** becomes al-arnab**u**.

أَرْنَبٌ ← اَلْأَرْنَبُ	عَيْنٌ ← اَلْعَيْنُ	مَسْجِدٌ ← اَلْمَسْجِدُ
بُومَةٌ ← اَلْبُومَةُ	غَنَمٌ ← اَلْغَنَمُ	هُدْهُدٌ ← اَلْهُدْهُدُ
جَمَلٌ ← اَلْجَمَلُ	فِيلٌ ← اَلْفِيلُ	وَرْدَةٌ ← اَلْوَرْدَةُ
حِصَانٌ ← اَلْحِصَانُ	قَمَرٌ ← اَلْقَمَرُ	يَمَامَةٌ ← اَلْيَمَامَةُ
خِنْزِيرٌ ← اَلْخِنْزِيرُ	كِتَابٌ ← اَلْكِتَابُ	

Exercise

Copy out the following words on the lines provided, adding 'al' to each word. Remember to change the two ḍammas at the end of each word into one ḍamma.

أَنْفٌ ← اَلْأَنْفُ   غُرَابٌ ______   هِلَالٌ ______

بَطَّةٌ ______   قِرْدٌ ______   وِسَادَةٌ ______

حُوتٌ ______   مُهْرٌ ______   يَدٌ ______

The sun letters

ت ث د ذ ر ز س ش ص ض ط ظ ن ل

The sun letters are shown above. Sun letters are written with a shadda when they come straight after 'al'. The laam of 'al' does not take a sukoon. Instead, it becomes a silent letter.

In the first example below, 'taajun' (a crown) becomes 'at-taaju' (the crown). Notice the strong sound of the 'ta', and note how you cannot hear the 'laam' at all.

Once again, the tanween at the end of a word without 'al' changes into a single short vowel once 'al' is added. e.g. taaj**un** becomes at-taaj**u**.

طَبْلَةٌ ← اَلطَّبْلَةُ	زَرَافَةٌ ← اَلزَّرَافَةُ	تَاجٌ ← اَلتَّاجُ
ظُفْرٌ ← اَلظُّفْرُ	سَاعَةٌ ← اَلسَّاعَةُ	ثَعْلَبٌ ← اَلثَّعْلَبُ
لِسَانٌ ← اَللِّسَانُ	شَمْسٌ ← اَلشَّمْسُ	دُبٌّ ← اَلدُّبُّ
نَجْمَةٌ ← اَلنَّجْمَةُ	صَارُوخٌ ← اَلصَّارُوخُ	ذِرَاعٌ ← اَلذِّرَاعُ
	ضِرْسٌ ← اَلضِّرْسُ	رِيشَةٌ ← اَلرِّيشَةُ

Exercise

Copy out the following words on the lines provided, adding 'al' to each word.
Remember to change the two ḍammas at the end of each word into one ḍamma.

ظَهْرٌ ________	سَرِيرٌ ________	تِينٌ ← اَلتِّينُ
لَحْمٌ ________	شَفَةٌ ________	دَجَاجَةٌ ________
نَحْلَةٌ ________	طَاوِلَةٌ ________	زَهْرَةٌ ________

Exercise

Sort out the words in the box below into two groups: those beginning with sun letters and those beginning with moon letters. Write them in the columns provided, adding 'al' to the beginning of each word.

جَزَرٌ	لَيْمُونٌ	قَلَمٌ	سَرِيرٌ	خُفَّاشٌ
ثَعْلَبٌ	إِجَّاصٌ	شَوْكَةٌ	عَجَلَةٌ	
طَائِرَةٌ	نَعَامَةٌ	مَوْزَةٌ	فَهْدٌ	دَرَّاجَةٌ

Sun Letter Words	Moon Letter Words
اَلشَّوْكَةُ	

Al-alif al-maqsura

Al-alif al-maqsura is a type of alif which appears at the end of some words. It always has a fatḥa before it. Read the examples below and copy them out into your exercise book.

لَيْلَى	أَدَّى	إِلَى
مُوسَى	تَمَنَّى	عَلَى
عِيسَى	اِسْتَدْعَى	حَتَّى
مُصْطَفَى	فَتًى	بَلَى
مُرَبًّى	قُرَى	رَمَى
الْمُسْتَشْفَى	هُدًى	سَعَى
الْمُسْتَدْعَى	سَلْمَى	يَخْشَى

سَبِّحِ اسْمَ رَبِّكَ الْأَعْلَى. الَّذِي خَلَقَ فَسَوَّى.

وَالَّذِي قَدَّرَ فَهَدَى. وَالَّذِي أَخْرَجَ الْمَرْعَى.

(سُورَةُ الْأَعْلَى)

Reading practice with hamza

Below are examples of hamza in its various forms and positions. Read the words out loud and copy them into your exercise book.

ضَوْؤُهُ	لَاجِئٌ	مَلِيئَةٌ	تَوْأَمٌ	أَنَّ
جَاءَ	شَيْءٌ	يُؤَدِّى	رَأْسٌ	إِنَّ
بَدَأَ	عِبْءٌ	رُؤُوسٌ	تَأْيِيدٌ	أُذُنٌ
قَرَأَ	قَضَاءٍ	مُؤْمِنٌ	أُهَنِّئُكُمْ	رَأَيْتُ
أَشْيَاءُ	جَرِيءٌ	رُؤْيَةٌ	سَيِّئَةٌ	سَأَلَ
بَدْءًا	يُضِيءُ	يَؤُمُّ	تَطْمَئِنُّ	الْمَرْأَةُ
هُدُوءًا	وُضُوءٌ	هَؤُلَاءِ	سُئِلَ	رَأَى
هَنِيئًا	بَطِيءٌ	خُلَطَاؤُهُ	أَفْئِدَةٌ	أَسْأَلُكَ
مَاءً	يَتَسَاءَلُ	اِقْرَأْ	ضَئِيلٌ	مَلَأْتُ
اِبْتِدَاءً	مُرُوءَةٌ	لُؤْلُؤٌ	فَوَائِدُ	اِمْرَأَةٌ

Reading practice

Read the following familiar Islamic phrases and learn their meanings.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ .	In the name of Allah, the Gracious, the Merciful.
اَللَّهُ أَكْبَرَ .	Allah is Greater.
سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ .	Glory be to Allah.
مَا شَاءَ اللَّه .	What Allah wishes. (A phrase used to express praise or admiration).
إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّه .	God willing.
اَلْحَمْدُ لِلَّه .	Praise be to Allah.(Thanks be to Allah).
أَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّه .	I ask Allah's forgiveness.
أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ .	I testify that there is no god except Allah.
أَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا رَسُولُ اللَّه .	I testify that Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah.
صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّم .	May the blessing and peace of Allah be upon him. (A phrase spoken after mentioning our Prophet's name).
أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ .	I seek protection in Allah from the accursed Shaytan.
جَزَاكَ اللَّهُ خَيْرًا .	(To a boy or man): May Allah reward you greatly.
جَزَاكِ اللَّهُ خَيْرًا .	(To a girl or woman): May Allah reward you greatly.
اَلسَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ .	May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon you. (Islamic greeting).
وَعَلَيْكُمُ السَّلَامُ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ .	And may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon you too. (Reply to Islamic greeting).

Ninety-nine perfect names of Allah أَسْمَاءُ اللَّهِ الْحُسْنَى

Read the beautiful names of Allah listed below and copy them into your exercise book, separating them into two groups according to whether the letter after the initial 'al-' is a sun letter or a moon letter.

هُوَ اللَّهُ الَّذِي لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ

الْغَفُورُ	الرَّافِعُ	الْبَارِئُ	الرَّحْمَنُ
الشَّكُورُ	الْمُعِزُّ	الْمُصَوِّرُ	الرَّحِيمُ
الْعَلِيُّ	الْمُذِلُّ	الْغَفَّارُ	الْمَلِكُ
الْكَبِيرُ	السَّمِيعُ	الْقَهَّارُ	الْقُدُّوسُ
الْحَفِيظُ	الْبَصِيرُ	الْوَهَّابُ	السَّلَامُ
الْمُقِيتُ	الْحَكَمُ	الرَّزَّاقُ	الْمُؤْمِنُ
الْحَسِيبُ	الْعَدْلُ	الْفَتَّاحُ	الْمُهَيْمِنُ
الْجَلِيلُ	اللَّطِيفُ	الْعَلِيمُ	الْعَزِيزُ
الْكَرِيمُ	الْخَبِيرُ	الْقَابِضُ	الْجَبَّارُ
الرَّقِيبُ	الْحَلِيمُ	الْبَاسِطُ	الْمُتَكَبِّرُ
الْمُجِيبُ	الْعَظِيمُ	الْخَافِضُ	الْخَالِقُ

Ninety-nine perfect names of Allah

الْجَامِعُ	الْآخِرُ	الْمُعِيدُ	الْوَاسِعُ
الْغَنِيُّ	الظَّاهِرُ	الْمُحْيِي	الْحَكِيمُ
الْمُغْنِي	الْبَاطِنُ	الْمُمِيتُ	الْوَدُودُ
الْمُعْطِي	الْوَالِي	الْحَيُّ	الْمَجِيدُ
الْمَانِعُ	الْمُتَعَالِي	الْقَيُّومُ	الْبَاعِثُ
الضَّارُّ	الْبَرُّ	الْوَاجِدُ	الشَّهِيدُ
النَّافِعُ	التَّوَّابُ	الْمَاجِدُ	الْحَقُّ
النُّورُ	الْمُنْتَقِمُ	الْوَاحِدُ	الْوَكِيلُ
الْهَادِي	الْعَفُوُّ	الصَّمَدُ	الْقَوِيُّ
الْبَدِيعُ	الرَّؤُوفُ	الْقَادِرُ	الْمَتِينُ
الْبَاقِي	مَالِكُ الْمُلْكِ	الْمُقْتَدِرُ	الْوَلِيُّ
الْوَارِثُ	ذُو الْجَلَالِ ـ	الْمُقَدِّمُ	الْحَمِيدُ
الرَّشِيدُ	وَالْإِكْرَامِ	الْمُؤَخِّرُ	الْمُحْصِي
الصَّبُورُ	الْمُقْسِطُ	الْأَوَّلُ	الْمُبْدِئُ

سُورَةُ الْفَاتِحَة

In the name of Allah, the Gracious, the Merciful.

Praise be to Allah, Lord of the Worlds,

The Gracious, the Merciful, Lord of the Day of Judgment.

You alone do we worship, and to You alone do we turn for help.

Guide us on the straight path,

The path of those whom You have favoured,

Not the path of those who earn Your anger, nor of those who go astray.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ.

اَلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ .

الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ. مَالِكِ يَوْمِ الدِّينِ.

إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ.

اهْدِنَا الصِّرَاطَ الْمُسْتَقِيمَ.

صِرَاطَ الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيْهِمْ

غَيْرِ الْمَغْضُوبِ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلاَ الضَّالِّينَ.

آيَةُ الْكُرْسِيّ

God – there is no god but Him, the Ever-Living, the Self-Subsisting.

Neither slumber nor sleep overtake Him.

To Him belong all that is in the heavens and all that is on the earth.

Who is there that could intercede with Him, unless it be by His leave?

He knows all that lies open before men and all that is hidden from them, whereas they cannot encompass anything of His knowledge save that which He wills [them to attain].

His throne extends over the heavens and the earth, and he never wearies of guarding and preserving them, for He is the Most High, the Supreme [in glory].

اللَّهُ لاَ إِلَهَ إِلاَّ هُوَ الْحَيُّ الْقَيُّومُ

لاَ تَأْخُذُهُ سِنَةٌ وَلاَ نَوْمٌ

لَهُ مَا فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَمَا فِي الأَرْضِ

مَن ذَا الَّذِي يَشْفَعُ عِنْدَهُ إِلاَّ بِإِذْنِهِ

يَعْلَمُ مَا بَيْنَ أَيْدِيهِمْ وَمَا خَلْفَهُمْ

وَلاَ يُحِيطُونَ بِشَيْءٍ مِنْ عِلْمِهِ إِلاَّ بِمَا شَاءَ

وَسِعَ كُرْسِيُّهُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالأَرْضَ

وَلاَ يَؤُودُهُ حِفْظُهُمَا وَهُوَ الْعَلِيُّ الْعَظِيمُ.